

REMARKS


Claims 1-18 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-14 have been amended to improve readability and to avoid multiple dependency. Claims 15-18 are new and include subject matter previously cited in the original claims.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21547-00295-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: 6/24/04

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Brian J. Hairston, Reg. No. 46,750
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP
1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036-3425
(202) 331-7111
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant